2. On June 21, 1995, Foreign Secretary wrote to the President of the Council requesting him to inform the Ministry about the progress on the passing of the proposed resolution by the Governing Body of the ICWA for the constitution of the High Powered Supervisory/ Advisory Committee. The President of the Council has not responded to the Foreign Secretary's letter.

3. It may be appreciated that the Indian Council of World Affairs is an autonomous institution under Societies Registration Act, 1880 on which Ministry of External Affairs, neither have direct control, nor have it provided any financial support since 1985.

Indian Missions Abroad

2409. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR :
SHRI R.L.P. VERMA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian Missions abroad and the budgetary provision made for them during the last three years;

(b) the countries, where Indian Embassy/High Commission/Consulate has been opened during 1994-95, 1995-96 and as on September 30, 1996;

(c) the number of Indian Ambassadors/High Commissioners/Consulate Generals abroad belonging to SC, ST and OBC communities;

(d) whether any quota has been fixed for the persons of these communities for appointment as Ambassadors/High Commissioners/Heads of Missions/ CGs; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) The Indian Missions/Post and other offices abroad under the Ministry of External Affairs as of and-November, 1996 were 158. The expenditure on all these offices under the budget of the Ministry of External Affairs for the last three financial years was Rs. 330.73 crores for 1993-94; Rs. 409.84 crores for 1994-95; and Rs. 486.87 crores for 1995-96.

(b) The Embassies/High Commissions/Consulates opened by India since 1994-95 are detailed below :

During 1994-95 1. Consulate General, Istanbul (Turkey) 2. High Commission, Pretoria (South Africa) 3. Consulate General, Durban (South Africa) 4. Embassy, Dushanbe (Tajikistan) 5. Embassy, Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan) and 6. Embassy in Bogota (Colomia) was reopened.

During 1995-96 1. Consulate General, Houston (USA) 2. Embassy, Bratislava (Slovak republic) 3. Consulate General, Glasgow (UK) 4. Embassy, Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso).

During April to September 1996 1. Consulate General, Sao Paulo (Brazil) 2. High Commission, Port Moresby (Papua New Guinea) 3. Embassy, Zagreb (Croatia).

(c) to (e). Ambassadors/High Commissioners and Consul Generals are appointed on the basis of their suitability, experience and eminence and not on the basis of caste or community, and there is no quota Among career Ambassadors/High Commissioners/ Consul Generals, sixteen belong to Scheduled Castes and nine to Scheduled Tribes. As regards the number of these officers belonging to other Backward Classes, the data is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Kendriya Vidyalaya at Wadakkanchery in Kerala

2410. SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Kerala for setting up of a Kendriya Vidyalaya in "Wadakkanchery" in Thrissoor District of Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Since the proposal received was incomplete the District Authorities have been requested to send the complete proposal.

[Translation]

N.H. 28 into Double Lane

2411. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are launching a scheme to widen and to convert into double lane, the National Highway No. 28 from Samastipur to Jainagar with the assistance of the World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made so far and the time by which the remaining work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). Samastipur to Jainagar is a state road which is included in the proposal containing list of state roads totalling 3100 kms for being upgraded, which has been furnished by the State Govt. of Bihar, for World Bank loan assistance. Necessary pre-feasibility studies for these roads are being undertaken by the State Govt., for being appraised by the World Bank. It is too early to indicate its inclusion of the World Bank loan assistance.